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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

(Case No. 99,252-A)

| In re Application of: | ) |
|-----------------------|---|
|                       | ) |
| Mertens et al         | , |

Serial No.: 09/998,889 Group Art Unit: 1746

ARCHINED ! Filed: November 1, 2001 Examiner: Saeed T. Chaudry

For: Method and Apparatus for Removing a Liquid from a Surface

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED ON APRIL 24, 2003** 

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed on April 24, 2003. A petition for a one month extension of time is being filed herewith, thereby extending the period for response from July 24, 2003 until August 25, 2003. Therefore, this response is timely.

Claims 1, 4-6 and 8-16 are pending in the application. A terminal disclaimer is also being filed herewith. Please amend the application as follows.

Claim Amendments are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments being on page 5 of this paper.